



3726
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inter Application of: Michael W. Johnson
Application No.: 09/880615
Filed: June 13, 2001
For: STENT DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM
Examiner: Jermie E. Cozart
Group Art Unit: 3726

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2N-9949-US

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1. In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached:
5 page Amendment; VAS Transmittal Letter; and Postcard.

PF 7

JAN 1 5 2003

2. With respect to fees:

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☐ Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$
☐ Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

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3. **CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2. above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

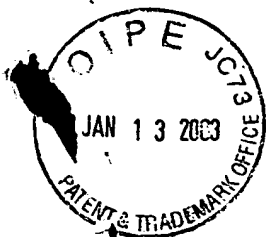
Date: January 8, 2003

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Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as FIRST-CLASS MAIL, addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on January 8, 2003.

Rebecca M. Painschab
Rebecca M. Painschab



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In Re Application of: Johnson
Application No.: 09/880,615
Filed: June 13, 2001
For: Stent Drug Delivery System
Examiner: Jermie Cozart
Group Art Unit: 3726

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-9949

AMENDMENT

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated October 9, 2002. In response, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims

Please replace claims 23, 25, 32 and 34 with amended claims 23, 25, 32 and 34 as follows:

546 C17
23.(Amended) A method of manufacturing a stent comprising the steps of:
providing a tube, the tube characterized by a longitudinal axis, having at least two different longitudinally spaced regions of different physical characteristics; and subsequently cutting a stent from the tube.

BA
25.(Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein a first portion of the tube is characterized by a first porosity and a second portion of the tube, longitudinally spaced from the first portion of the tube, is characterized by a second porosity different from the first porosity.